

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

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IN RE: NORTHEASTERN DIVISION  
CIVIL CASE ASSIGNMENTS

)  
) Administrative Order No. 154

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee has three Divisions pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 123(b): Nashville, Northeastern and Columbia. “Court for the Northeastern Division shall be held at Cookeville.” *Id.* at § 123(b)(2). Local Rule 77.01(c) provides that “[a]ll civil cases shall be tried in the division where the case is filed unless the Trial Judge transfers the case to another division.”

In order to enhance the administration of the dockets for all three Divisions, the Court has determined that it should return<sup>1</sup> to the practice of assigning civil cases in the Northeastern Division to a single judge upon the appointment of the next District Judge.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 137,<sup>2</sup> the next District Judge appointed to the Court shall be assigned all new civil cases from the Northeastern Division. The District Judge for the Northeastern Division shall not be in the civil draw for the Columbia Division. The Local Rules shall be amended at the appropriate time to implement this case assignment procedure.

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<sup>1</sup> Prior to April 1, 2006, Local Rule 6(a)(1) provided: “All civil cases in the Northeastern Division shall be assigned to one Judge.” Current Local Rule 40.01 provides that “[c]ivil cases shall be assigned on a random selection basis.”

<sup>2</sup> 28 U.S.C. § 137 provides: “Division of business among district judges – The business of a court having more than one judge shall be divided among the judges as provided by the rules and orders of the court. The chief judge of the district court shall be responsible for the observance of such rules and orders, and shall divide the business and assign the cases so far as such rules and orders do not otherwise prescribe.”

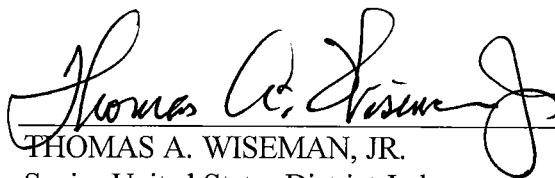
The Clerk of Court shall adopt procedures to ensure that the active District Judges draw civil cases in equal amounts based on the total number of civil cases filed in all three Divisions of the Court.

Nothing in this Administrative Order supersedes the following Administrative Orders: Administrative Order No. 158-1 (Capital Habeas Corpus Petitions and Related Cases), Administrative Order No. 175 (Assignment of Certain Civil Cases), Administrative Order No. 176 (Reassignment of Related Civil Cases), or Administrative Order No. 177 (Emergency Motions for Temporary Restraining Orders.) This Administrative Order supersedes Administrative Order No. 99 (Division of Business of the Court) to the extent applicable and does not apply to criminal cases.

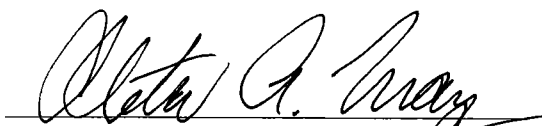
It is so ORDERED.



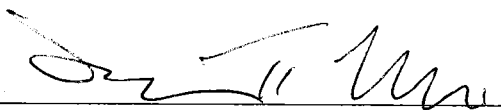
TODD J. CAMPBELL  
Chief United States District Judge



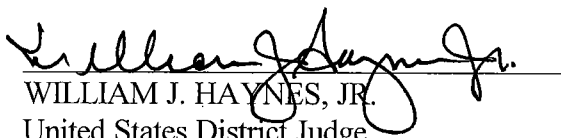
THOMAS A. WISEMAN, JR.  
Senior United States District Judge



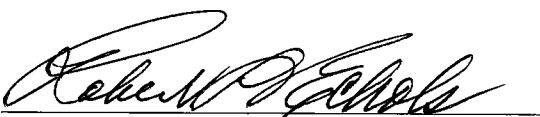
ALETA A. TRAUGER  
United States District Judge



JOHN T. NIXON  
Senior United States District Judge



WILLIAM J. HAYNES, JR.  
United States District Judge



ROBERT L. ECHOLS  
Senior United States District Judge